

New Fire Department Wildland Training for Cooperative Areas

The WI DNR now has instructors available to teach wildland fire training to fire departments in cooperative fire protection areas of the state. Recent surveys of cooperative area FDs found that 56% had not received wildland fire training in the last three years and that 33% had never received any wildland fire training. Those same surveys indicated that fire departments in cooperative areas of the state respond to an average of 3,430 wildland fires burning 24,550 acres every year in Wisconsin. This training effort is focused on assisting fire departments to safely and efficiently suppress those 3,500 wildland fires that occur every year in the cooperative areas of Wisconsin. The Division of Forestry is funding this initiative.

These instructors will be teaching the 8-hour WI DNR course, *“Introduction to Wildland Fire Suppression for Wisconsin Fire Departments”*. This course is designed to offer firefighters all the information they need to safely suppress wildland fires in Wisconsin. A broader range of wildland fire topics is also available as requested by fire departments to meet their needs and time constraints.

If your fire department is interested in this **free** wildland fire training, please contact Chris Klahn, Cooperative Fire Specialist, at (608) 297-2214 to be scheduled for this valuable training.

~~A **map** of Wisconsin's cooperative fire protection areas can be found on the back~~

A map of Minnesota showing county-level political affiliation. The legend indicates three categories: Intensive (dark red), Extensive (yellow), and Co-op (white). The Intensive group includes counties such as Douglas, Buffalo, Hibbing, Iron, Itasca, Lake, Lincoln, Marshall, Mower, Olmsted, Ramsey, Scott, Stearns, and Wabasha. The Extensive group includes counties such as Anoka, Carver, Chisago, Crow Wing, Faribault, Hennepin, Kandake, Ramsey, Scott, Stearns, and Wabasha. The Co-op group includes counties such as Aitkin, Beltrami, Big Lake, Carlton, Cass, Chippewa, Clear Lake, Cook, Crow Wing, Faribault, Hennepin, Kandake, Ramsey, Scott, Stearns, and Wabasha.

